Conversion of Madras Telephones into a Corporation

*382. SHRI T. R. BALU:
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to convert Madras Telephones into a Corporation as in Delhi and Bombay; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BIR BAHADUR SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise. There is no proposal for formation of new Mahanagar Telephone Nigams at present.

Setting up of Technology Cells by the ONGC

*383. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has decided to set up technology cells in its various research and development institutes;

(b) if so, whether this will be a major effort to keep pace with the latest trends emerging in oil technology;

(c) if so, what other benefits will accrue therefrom; and

(d) to what extent it will help in oil exploration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The cells would identify technology gaps by planning the international technology environment and find out ways and means to bridge the gap leading to development of expertise.

(d) Oil and Natural Gas Commission will be able to keep pace with the latest technology trends for exploration in highly risky, geologically complex and frontier areas.

Emergency Requirement of Orissa

*384. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the anticipated requirement of energy in Orissa by the end of the Eighth Five Year Plan period; and

(b) what measures are being taken to meet the requirement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) As per 13th Power Survey Report the anticipated annual requirement of Energy in Orissa by the end of the 8th Five Year Plan period will be 19.27 billion units.

(b) The measures being taken to meet the requirement include, *inter alia*, expeditious commissioning of additional capacity in Orissa in the State Sector, providing assistance from the neighbouring systems, renovation and modernisation of Talcher Thermal Power Plant to improve its productivity, reduction in transmission and distribution losses and implementation of demand management and energy conservation measures.

Special panel for coordinating with ONGC

*385. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:
SHRI T. R. BALU:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Tamil Nadu Government has set up a special panel to coordinate its activities with the Oil and Natural Gas Commission;

(b) if so, what are the projects envisaged by the State Government and Central Government for making use of the oil and gas explored in Tamil Nadu; and

(c) what are the details of each project and by when each will be executed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) A committee has been constituted by the Government of Tamil Nadu.

(b) and (c) Supply of gas has been committed to M/s Indian Steel Rolling Mills, Nagapattinam, Kiran Silicates, Puthamgudi, B&C Mills, Bhuvanagiri, Jayadevi Industries, Narimanam and for a 5 M.W. generating set of Tamil Nadu State Electricity Board.

Attainment of Self-Sufficiency in Oil Production

*387. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) by when the country expects to attain self-sufficiency in oil in view of Government's drive for enhanced production during recent years; and

(b) what will be the level of self-sufficiency in oil during 1989-90?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) It is not possible to say with any degree of certainty as to when self-sufficiency will be achieved.

(b) About 61 per cent.

Use of Fly-Ash Produced by Thermal Power Plants

*392. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the estimated quantity of fly-ash annually produced by the Thermal Power Plants in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government have approved a project for utilising substantial part of the fly-ash produced by the Badarpur Thermal Power Plant in producing cost effective building material;

(c) if so, whether the project has been taken up; and

(d) whether similar projects are proposed to be taken up in other parts of the country also?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): The quantity of fly ash produced by thermal power plants in the country was about 25 million tonnes in 1986-87 and about 30 million tonnes in 1987-88.

(b) and (c) The question of utilising substantial part of the fly-ash produced by the Badarpur Thermal Power Plant in producing cost effective building material is under consideration of Delhi Administration.

(d) Similar projects in other parts of the country would also be considered on merits as and when they are received by the Government.

Proposed Assam Refinery under Separate Corporate Structure

*393. DR. NAGEN SAIKIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state what is Government's reaction to the Assam Government's request for the setting up of another Refinery in Assam under a separate corporate structure with State Government's participation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): *Prima-facia* it will be very difficult for the Government of India to find adequate resources if the refinery is to be set up through the formation of a new company exclusively for the purpose.